

2.2.3 CULTURAL RESOURCES, INCLUDING EMIGRANT TRAILS

Objectives

- To protect the setting and physical traces of emigrant trails for the benefit of current and future generations.
- To protect and interpret all cultural resources for the benefit of current and future generations.

CRM-1: BLM will inventory the traces of the Applegate and Nobles Trails within the planning area using the guidelines established by the Oregon-California Trails Association (OCTA) and in coordination with OCTA and Trails West. Trail traces will be placed into appropriate categories developed by the BLM but based on OCTA evaluation criteria (Appendix D). Trail traces with high or significant historic value will be monitored. Restrictions on the use, or stabilization activities, will be undertaken to preserve trail traces with high or significant values.

CRM-2: Class A and B segments of the Applegate Historic Trail are closed to motorized vehicles.

CRM-3: Two Class C segments of the Applegate Historic Trail shown on Map2-2a (located in Upper High Rock Canyon and in the vicinity of BLM Road 2048) are closed to motorized vehicles.

Note: Paralleling motorized transportation system routes either already exist or may be created (outside of the immediate viewshed of the historic trail) to provide routes for vehicles that would not impact the historic trail. (See Appendix D for definitions of the trail classes.) Other historic trail segments could be closed through route evaluations as identified in decision TRAN-8.

CRM-4: Additional National Historic Preservation Act Sec. 110 Class III cultural resource inventories of large areas will be undertaken. Cultural resource inventories will be prioritized and will focus first on the emigrant trail corridor, second on the Wilderness Areas, and finally on the remainder of the planning area, unless other needs are identified.

Note: A comprehensive overview and research design will be developed for the planning area to guide future inventories, eligibility evaluations, research needs, and other management decisions. Outstanding eligible resources identified and recorded as a result of inventories may be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

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Point



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Chapter 2 –Management Plan

CRM-5: BLM will encourage scientific research into cultural resources, including public participation in inventories, excavations and scientific analyses where appropriate (See description of the Scientific Partnership in Appendix E). Information will be disseminated through publications, museums, and visitor centers.

CRM-6: Cultural resource sites will be identified by site type and placed into appropriate cultural resource use categories, as defined in Appendix F. The emphasis for cultural resources will be public use, making many sites available for educational and recreational use by the general public. Interpretation and development of information will reflect consultation with the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office. Based on site monitoring, fences, erosion control devices and other protective structures may be constructed to prevent or limit damage. If protective devices are ineffective, then the site may be removed from the public use category, so that it would no longer be available for use by the general public, and placed into a more appropriate use category such as conservation or scientific use.

Note: Archaeological testing, data recovery, historic research, oral histories, ethnographic research, and other treatments may be necessary to gather sufficient information for suitable educational and interpretive uses and to prevent damage from proposed recreational or educational uses.

Implementation

Note: Preparation of a Cultural Resources Management Plan (CRMP) is a priority during RMP implementation. The plan will cover all cultural resources in the planning area including historic trails. The CRMP will contain the definitions of site types and use categories, historic and prehistoric overview and contexts, priorities for inventory, provisions for a site stewardship program, and research designs. Preparation of this plan will include opportunities for consultations and public involvement.